

# The Philippines – Super Typhoon Rai

January 6, 2022

## SITUATION AT A GLANCE

**407**

Super Typhoon-related  
Deaths Reported in the  
Philippines

GPH – January 2022

**7.3**

**MILLION**

Estimated Number of  
People Affected by  
Super Typhoon Rai

GPH – January 2022

**2.4**

**MILLION**

Estimated Number of People  
in Need of Humanitarian  
Assistance

UN – January 2022

**530,000**

Number of People  
Targeted by the UN to  
Receive Disaster Relief

UN – January 2022

- Between December 16 and 17, Super Typhoon Rai made landfall over seven provinces across the Philippines, causing widespread damage to houses, public infrastructure, and power and telecommunications services.
- Super Typhoon Rai affected approximately 7.3 million people across the Philippines, with hundreds of thousands of individuals in need of emergency food, health care, shelter, and WASH assistance.
- On December 20, U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Heather Variava declared a disaster due to the effects of Super Typhoon Rai. In response, USAID/BHA has announced \$20.2 million in humanitarian assistance for food, logistics, protection, shelter, and WASH support as well as to deliver relief commodities.



## TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the Super Typhoon Rai Response in FY 2022

USAID/BHA<sup>1</sup> \$8,200,000

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6.

**Total \$8,200,000**

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA). Funds reflect a portion of the announced funding that has been committed or obligated as of January 6, 2022.

## TIMELINE

**December 10, 2022**

The GPH activates national and regional emergency operations centers and commences pre-disaster risk assessments

**December 16, 2022**

Super Typhoon Rai makes landfall over the Philippines' Suriago Del Norte Province, Caraga Region

**December 17, 2022**

Super Typhoon Rai makes final landfall over Mimaropa Region's Palawan Province

**December 20, 2021**

U.S. Chargé d'Affaires, a.i., Heather Variava declares a disaster; USAID/BHA allocates \$200,000 to support ongoing GPH-led relief efforts

**December 21, 2021**

The GPH declares a state of calamity across five regions in the Philippines

**December 23, 2021**

The UN approves \$12 million in CERF funds for relief efforts in the Philippines

**December 24, 2021**

The UN launches the HNP for Typhoon Rai requesting \$107.2 million for relief efforts in the Philippines

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

### Super Typhoon Rai Affects Nearly 7.3 Million People Across the Philippines

Super Typhoon Rai—known locally as Typhoon Odette—made landfall over seven Philippine provinces between December 16 and 17 with sustained wind speeds between 110 and 150 miles per hour, causing extensive damage to houses and public infrastructure. The storm affected approximately 7.3 million people across the Bicol, Caraga, Central Visayas, Davao, Eastern Visayas, Mimaropa, Northern Mindanao, Soccsksargen, Western Visayas, and Zamboanga Peninsula regions, according to the Government of the Philippines (GPH). As of January 6, the GPH estimated that Super Typhoon Rai had resulted in at least 407 deaths and injured an estimated 1,150 people, with at least 78 people still missing. Approximately 460,000 people—including nearly 308,000 individuals residing in more than 1,350 official evacuation centers—also remained displaced.

Local and national authorities, in coordination with UN and non-governmental organization (NGO) partners, activated search-and-rescue teams and are working to conduct needs assessments in affected areas. In addition, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is activating its Displacement Tracking Matrix to monitor displacement trends due to Super Typhoon Rai in Caraga as well as Eastern Visayas' Leyte and Southern Leyte provinces.

### Typhoon Damage to Infrastructure Challenges Relief Operations, Exacerbates Humanitarian Needs

GPH assessments following Super Typhoon Rai indicate the storm damaged or destroyed more than 925,000 houses and caused significant damage to major roadways and other public infrastructure in affected areas, including telecommunications systems. Damage to infrastructure is challenging relief efforts, while damage to communications systems is contributing to difficulties obtaining information from affected areas, the UN notes. As of January 6, an estimated 74 affected municipalities remained without power, and more than 40 municipalities continued to experience communication outages, according to the GPH National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. Communications systems may require up to six months to fully resume operations, according to the Emergency Telecommunications Cluster, the coordinating body for humanitarian emergency telecommunications activities, comprising UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. The GPH also estimates that Super Typhoon Rai has resulted in \$216 million in agriculture damages, the destruction of approximately 253,000 metric tons of crops, and significant damage to local fisheries.

Moreover, typhoon-related destruction of water systems, limited access to safe drinking water, and a lack of water quality monitoring is exacerbating health concerns in affected regions of the Philippines, relief actors report. As of January 4, health actors had recorded more than 400 cases of diarrhea and acute gastroenteritis, including at

least seven related deaths, across areas affected by Super Typhoon Rai, likely due to typhoon-related damages to water systems, according to local media and the UN. Relief actors have also expressed concerns that heightened coronavirus disease (COVID-19)-related restrictions could hamper operations in the coming weeks. Following a global surge in confirmed COVID-19 cases, the GPH has enacted a 14-day quarantine period for most international arrivals, while regional officials have imposed local-level restrictions to reduce disease transmission. The GPH continues to conduct debris clearance operations to facilitate access to affected areas, as well as to distribute food, hygiene kits, shelter supplies, and safe drinking water to households in need.

### **USAID/BHA Announces \$20.2 Million in Assistance for Super Typhoon Rai Response**

USAID/BHA allocated \$19 million in humanitarian assistance to support communities affected by Super Typhoon Rai. This funding is in addition to an initial \$1.2 million provided to the UN World Food Program (WFP) and the NGO Acción contra el Hambre/Spain (ACH/Spain) in late December to address the urgent humanitarian needs arising from the storm. With a total contribution of approximately \$20.2 million to date, USAID/BHA assistance will support UN and NGO partners to deliver emergency food, protection programming, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance as well as to provide critical logistics and humanitarian coordination and information management services across affected regions. The USG remains the largest humanitarian donor to the Super Typhoon Rai response.

### **President Duterte Declares State of Calamity, GPH and Relief Actors Mobilize Response Operations**

On December 21, President of the Philippines Rodrigo Duterte declared a one-year state of calamity in six provinces across the Philippines, enabling local and regional authorities to mobilize national emergency response funds to address humanitarian needs among typhoon-affected communities. Since December 17, the GPH has also deployed search-and-rescue teams to regions hit by the storm, coordinating with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Armed Forces of the Philippines, and the Philippine Coast Guard to conduct aerial assessments, debris clearance operations, and emergency evacuations and to distribute relief commodities. On January 1, a Philippine Navy ship arrived in Surigao del Norte carrying approximately 2,000 bottles of safe drinking water, 200 tents, and other relief commodities, international media report. As of January 5, the GPH had distributed more than \$7.3 million in immediate assistance and maintained more than \$31.1 million in standby funds and emergency food and relief commodities for distribution, as needed. Meanwhile, personnel from NGOs and UN agencies—including ACH/Spain, Americares, CARE, Catholic Relief Services, IOM, Relief International, Save the Children Federation, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), WFP, and World Vision, among other relief actors—have been activated or deployed to conduct needs assessments and provide immediate humanitarian assistance in coordination with the GPH.

### **UN Launches HNP for Super Typhoon Rai, ERC Allocates \$12 Million for Relief in the Philippines**

On December 24, GPH Secretary of Foreign Affairs Teodoro Locsin and UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in the Philippines Gustavo Gonzalez jointly launched the Humanitarian Needs and Priorities (HNP) for the Philippines in response to Super Typhoon Rai, requesting approximately \$107.2 million in international disaster assistance to support GPH-led humanitarian relief efforts. Between December 2021 and June 2022, the HNP aims to reach 530,000 people in severely affected areas of Caraga and Eastern Visayas with emergency food, health, logistics, shelter, and WASH assistance, among other support. Additionally, on December 23, UN Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) Martin Griffiths allocated \$12 million from the UN Central Emergency Response

Fund (CERF) for humanitarian assistance in response to Super Typhoon Rai across Caraga and Eastern Visayas. This funding includes at least \$2.4 million for protection activities in affected areas.

## KEY FIGURES



**4,300**

Number of shelter kits provided to affected populations



**519,300**

People targeted to receive health care support from international relief efforts



**2.4 Million**

People in need of emergency food assistance

## NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL, AND U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

### DISPLACEMENT AND SHELTER

Shelter assistance remains a priority need for typhoon-affected populations during the early recovery phase of the Super Typhoon Rai response. As of January 4, Shelter Cluster partners had distributed assistance to approximately 94,000 households in affected areas, including nearly 140,000 plastic sheets, more than 19,000 iron roofing sheets, and more than 4,300 shelter kits. With USAID/BHA support, IOM has deployed technical advisors and relief commodities to support the GPH in camp management and coordination across Caraga, Central Visayas, and Eastern Visayas. The UN agency had distributed shelter-grade tarps to nearly 4,800 households to address critical shelter needs as of January 6. Additionally, IOM is deploying shelter advisors to assist affected households in properly utilizing shelter materials and has mobilized health care staff to deliver psychosocial support services in displacement sites. Furthermore, with USAID/BHA funds, ACH/Spain is providing shelter assistance to approximately 1,000 displaced households across Caraga.

### HEALTH

As the health sector in affected areas of the Philippines recovers, relief actors continue to supplement GPH Ministry of Health capacity to meet health care needs of storm-affected populations. As of January 4, Health Cluster partners had distributed approximately 1.6 million water purification tablets, more than 1 million surgical masks, and health kits sufficient to meet the medical needs of 10,000 people for three months in affected areas. With USAID/BHA support, IOM is also preparing to conduct a series of trainings on the provision of mental health and psychosocial support services for community focal points and frontline GPH officials, thereby expanding access to mental health and psychosocial support services among populations affected by Super Typhoon Rai.

### FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE

In coordination with UN and NGO partners, the GPH is distributing in-kind food assistance to address immediate food needs following Super Typhoon Rai. As of January 4, the GPH had distributed tens of thousands of food kits across the Philippines and prepositioned nearly 350,000 family food packs (FFPs) for delivery to households in need, with an additional stockpile of nearly 109,000 FFPs available for distribution, as needed. In addition, with USAID/BHA support, ACH/Spain is providing emergency food assistance to approximately 5,000 individuals across Caraga's Dinagat Islands and Surigao

del Norte provinces, while USAID/BHA partner WFP is facilitating the distribution of in-kind food assistance for tens of thousands of individuals through USAID/BHA-funded logistics and transportation support to the GPH.

UN agencies and NGOs are also supporting the recovery of agricultural systems and fisheries damaged by Super Typhoon Rai, providing both in-kind and cash-based assistance. In coordination with the GPH, Food Security Cluster partners are assessing typhoon-related damages to agricultural land and fisheries and are working to implement programs for the restoration of agricultural and fisheries-based livelihoods by distributing fertilizers, fishing supplies, livestock, and seeds to vulnerable farming communities.



**70,400**

DSWD food kits  
transported by WFP as of  
January 4

## LOGISTICS AND EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS

USAID/BHA partner WFP is providing significant logistics support for humanitarian operations in coordination with the GPH. As of January 5, WFP had mobilized 113 trucks to transport DSWD commodities across Caraga, Central Visayas, Mimaropa, and Western Visayas, as well as Luzon Island. WFP has also procured 12 mobile storage units and operationalized one generator to create an emergency logistics hub in Surigao city, Surigao del Norte. The UN agency continues to support the GPH to deploy emergency response teams and bolster telecommunications services across typhoon-affected communities, facilitating the movement of relief commodities and staff to affected areas. WFP is also providing vital logistics support to transport 129,400 DSWD FFPs to affected areas.

Meanwhile, Emergency Telecommunications Cluster partners have operationalized communications hubs in six areas to facilitate the delivery of assistance and response efforts, including Agusan del Norte Province's Butuan city, Cebu Province's Alegria municipality, Dinagat Islands, and Negros Occidental Province's Sipalay city, Surigao city, and Surigao del Norte Province's Siargao Island.



**7,400**

Number of household  
hygiene kits distributed by  
relief actors as of January 4

## WASH

To date, WASH Cluster partners have distributed approximately 8,000 water disinfectants; 7,400 household hygiene kits; 7,100 water containers; and two water treatment units across Caraga. With USAID/BHA support, IOM is responding to the priority WASH needs identified by the GPH by increasing access to sanitation facilities, delivering hygiene supplies and safe drinking water to affected communities, and promoting messaging related to hygiene and COVID-19 prevention practices. Moreover, as of January 3, USAID/BHA partner ACH/Spain had distributed 72 bottles of water treatment solution to local authorities in Siargao Island with preparations underway to distribute hundreds of hygiene kits in affected areas.

## USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUPER TYPHOON RAI RESPONSE IN FY 2022<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
ACH/Spain	Food Assistance, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Caraga	\$200,000
IOM	Protection, Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Caraga, Eastern Visayas	\$7,000,000
WFP	Logistics Support; Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments	Caraga, Central Visayas, Eastern Visayas	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SUPER TYPHOON RAI RESPONSE IN FY 2022			\$8,200,000

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funds reflect a portion of the announced funding that has been committed or obligated as of January 6, 2022

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [interaction.org](https://interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [cidi.org](https://cidi.org)
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [reliefweb.int](https://reliefweb.int).

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at [usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work](https://www.usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work)